



Fig. 1: *Bauhinia variegata* L.: a. Normal and reduced size carpel. — After herb. acc. no. 137613; b. two free carpels of normal size, — After Bandyopadhyay 103. (Scale = 1 cm).

When I was writing this communication, Dr. P.R. Sur kindly drew my attention to a flower of *B. variegata* from his garden at Aakra, Santoshpur, which had not only two free carpels but also ten petals and ten fertile stamens. Moreover, I observed that the spathaceous calyx

was shortly bilobed at its apex and each half was made up of five sepals. It seemed to me that two flowers had somehow joined together.

While examining the flower with two free carpels, gathered from the Prain mound, I also observed seven fertile stamens and later found that some of the flowers from the third, fifth and sixth trees in the aforesaid sequence, have four, six or seven fertile stamens. There were also flowers with the usual five stamens. Furthermore, some of the flowers, irrespective of the number of fertile stamens, had two to five staminodes and a reduced stamen of varying size. This interesting variation in the number of fertile stamens and the presence of a reduced stamen has not been recorded earlier in *B. variegata*.

The flowers on all the six trees are reddish-purple and the fertilized ovules develop into well-formed seeds.

The voucher specimens (3.iii.2000, *Bandyopadhyay* 103; 14.iii.2000, *Bandyopadhyay* 104; 6.iii.2000, *Sur s.n.*) have been deposited in CAL.

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43. *ACTINOSTEMMA TENERUM* GRIFF., CUCURBITACEAE, A NEW PHYTOGEOGRAPHIC RECORD FROM ALIGARH, UTTAR PRADESH

Actinostemma Griff. is a small genus consisting of seven species confined to China (Chakravarty 1959). *A. tenerum* Griff. is the sole representative of this genus in India, with a limited distribution in Assam, Bengal and western Himalayas, and Bahraich, Kheri and Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh. The above mentioned places in Uttar Pradesh are situated in the terai region and are characterized by humid climate and humus-rich loam soil. The species was recently collected from Aligarh (27° 29' - 28° 11' N, 77° 29' - 78° 38' E). Since this taxon has

never been reported from any locality in Uttar Pradesh, except those mentioned above, its occurrence in Aligarh is being reported as a new distributional record.

Actinostemma tenerum Griff. Pl. Cantor. 24.T.3. 1837; Clarke in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. II 633 (excl. syn.) 1879; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Pl. I, 382 1969 (Repr edn); Chakravarty, Monograph on Indian Cucurbitaceae, 180, 1939.

An extensive climber with slender, obtusely five-angled branches; younger parts, petiole base and nodes pilose with gland-tipped hairs, tendrils

simple or bifid; leaf-blade sagittately trilobed, leaf-base with a deep sinus, apex acute, margins minutely denticulate or coarsely serrate; male flowers small in large panicle like pendulous inflorescence; sepals and petals cream-coloured, narrow subulate, stamens five, free; female flowers solitary, fruit ovoid-elliptic, softly echinate, circumscissile, without pulp when mature; seeds three, ashy, plano-convex (one seed was noticed with both faces plain) reticulate, margins distinctly grooved.

44. TWO NEW ADDITIONS TO COOKE'S FLORA OF BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

(With one text-figure)

While working on the flora of Chaukul-Ramghat in Savantwadi taluka of Sindhudurg district, two rare angiosperm species were collected. They are presented below with necessary descriptions, line drawings and distribution in the study area.

Emilia scabra (Asteraceae)

(Fig. 1)

DC. Prodr. 6: 303, 1838; Wight., Icon. t. 1123, 1846; Gamble, Fl. Madras 2: 716, 1921. *E. sonchifolia* DC. var. *scabra* Hook. f., Flora Brit. Ind. 3: 336, 1881.

A branched pubescent herb. Leaves radical, scabrous, semiamplexicaul at the base, dentate. Capitulum oblong 1-1.5 cm long and 0.5 cm broad, on forked, slender rachis. Involucral bracts linear, spathulate, 6-7 nerved, nerves faint, yellow, curling outward on drying. Head homogamous. Disc florets many, purple, deciduous; each floret with an inferior, small, rounded triangular ovary. Corolla tube long. Calyx modified into pappus. Pappus many, deciduous, white, consisting of a number of oblong cells, hairy, shining. Corolla with long tube, slightly enlarged at the apex, consists of 5 petals, oval shaped, purple. Stamens 5, epipetalous, filament slender, flexuous. Anthers syngeneous, remain within the corolla tube. Ovary bilocular, slightly flattened, trigonous with

Fl. and Fr.: September to November.

Exsiccata: Athar s.n. Botany Department Herbarium, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

Remarks: Rare, grows on moist clay soil on the banks of canals.

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long, slender and bifid style; stigma lobes 2, thick, purple, remain within the corolla tube. Achene angled, ribbed, hispid on the angles.

Rare, noticed along the borders of rice fields.

Fl. & Fr.: December.

Distribution: Chakul. Exc. BGG-808 (BLAT).

This species has not been reported since the publication of the FLORA OF MADRAS by Gamble in 1921. This is the first report from Maharashtra and follows a gap of 75 years after Gamble's report. It is also an addition to Cooke's FLORA OF BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

Cymbopogon nardus L. (Poaceae)

Rendle, var. *luridus* (Hook. f.) Gavade & Almeida comb. nov. *Cymbopogon nardus* (L.) Rendle var. *confertiflorus* (Steud.) Stapf. ex Bor. in J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. 51: 905, 1953 & Grass. Ind. 130, 1960. *Andropogon nilgircus* Hochst. in Hohenacker, Phan. Ind. Or. No. 932, 1851 (nom. nud). *Andropogon confertiflorus* Steud., Syn. pl. Glum. 1: 385, 1854. *Andropogon nardus* L. subsp. *nilgircus* Hack. in DC., Mon. Phan. 6: 604, 1889; Hook. f., Flora Brit. Ind. 7: 204, 1896. *A. nardus* L. var. *luridus* Hook. f., Flora Brit. Ind. 7: 204, 1896. *Cymbopogon confertiflorus* (Steud.) Stapf., in Kew Bull. 1906: 318, 1906.